

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 through 31 were pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1 through 10 and 20-31 have been cancelled to comply with the Restriction Requirement. New claims 32 through 41 have been added.

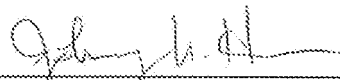
In response to the Restriction Requirement in the August 6, 2007 Office Action, Applicant elects to proceed with examination of Claims 11-19 (Group II), drawn to methods of endoscopically forming, approximating and securing a plurality of tissue folds within a patient and methods of performing gastric reduction procedures. All of the pending claims are encompassed by the elected group.

New claims 32 through 41 find support in the specification in at least Figures 40A-D and 41A-C, and the associated descriptions provided in paragraphs 0249-0263.

Accordingly, Applicants believe that, in light of the elections presented herein, claims 11-19 and 32-41 are presently under consideration. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority to this application. Applicants respectfully request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

In the event the appropriate fee and/or petition is not filed herewith and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with this filing to Deposit Account No. 50-3973 referencing Attorney Docket No. USGINZ02511. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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